

Claims:

Replace all previous versions of the claims with the following listing:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A refrigerator comprising:

a cabinet defining at least one food preservation compartment and having at least a first conductor configured to connect to a source of electricity;

a door for selectively closing the cabinet and having at least a second conductor configured to supply power to at least one user device provided on the door; ~~and~~

an electrical connection device coupling the first and second conductors and comprising a hinge connecting the cabinet to the door and the hinge comprising an electrically conductive first hinge plate and a first electrically conductive fastener mounting the first hinge plate to the cabinet and mounted to the cabinet and electrically coupled to the first conductor, an electrically conductive second hinge plate and a second electrically conductive fastener mounting the second hinge plate mounted to the door and electrically coupled to the second conductor, wherein the first and second hinge plates are electrically coupled to define an electrically conductive path from the first conductor to the first hinge plate to the second hinge plate to the second conductor to supply power from the source of electricity to the user device; and

first and second electrically conductive reinforcement elements, the first electrically conductive reinforcement element electrically coupled to the first electrically conductive fastener, and the second electrically conductive reinforcement element electrically coupled to the second electrically conductive fastener.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The refrigerator according to ~~claim 15~~claim 14, wherein the first and second electrical fasteners pass through an outer panel of the cabinet and door, respectively, and into an interior of the cabinet and door, respectively, to mount the first and second hinge plates to the cabinet and the door, respectively.

17. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claim 16, wherein the first and second conductors are located in the interior of the cabinet and the door, respectively.

18. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claim 17, wherein the first and second electrically conductive fasteners are electrically insulated from the cabinet and door.

19. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claim 18, and further comprising a first electrically insulating bushing positioned between the first electrically conductive fastener and the outer panel of the cabinet and a second electrically insulating bushing positioned between the second electrically conductive fastener and the outer panel of the door.

20. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claim 19, and further comprising a first electrically insulating member positioned between the first hinge plate and the cabinet and a second electrically insulating member positioned between the second hinge plate and the door to electrically insulate the first and second hinge plates relative to the cabinet and the door.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The refrigerator according to ~~claim 24~~claim 14, wherein the first and second reinforcement elements are electrically insulated from the cabinet and door, respectively.

23. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claims 22, and further comprising a first electrically insulating member positioned between the first reinforcement element and the cabinet and a second electrically insulating member positioned between the second reinforcement element and the door.

24. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claim 14, wherein the first and second conductors are embedded in insulating material of the cabinet and door, respectively.

25. (Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claim 14, wherein the first and second hinge plates are electrically insulated from the cabinet and the door, respectively.

26.(Previously Presented) The refrigerator according to claim 14, and further comprising a hinge pin electrically connecting the first hinge plate and the second hinge plate.